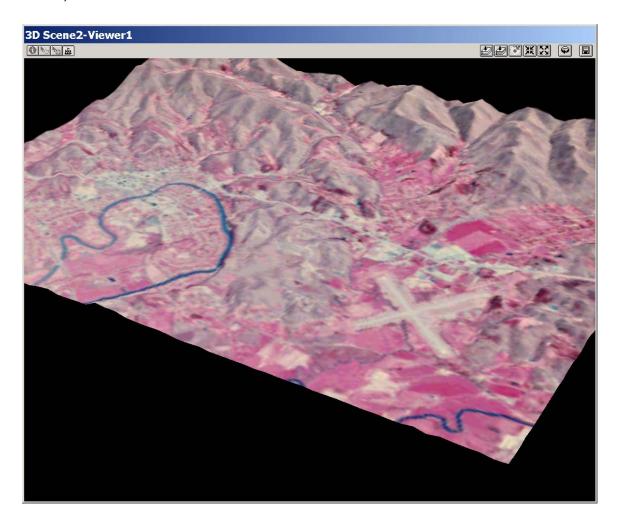


MONONGAHELA NATIONAL FOREST (MNF) PROMOTES GIS DAY!

On Wednesday, November 20, 2002 the Monongahela National Forest (MNF) celebrated GIS Day by hosting Elkins High School science teacher Jay Dailer and his 9th grade science class for a combined career day and hands-on GIS session.

Forest Planner, Doug Adamo, led the career day session by giving the students an overview of the Monongahela National Forest. MNF staffers Mike Owen (aquatic ecologist), Stephanie Connolly (soil scientist), and Leann Lesser (computer specialist) followed with their own experiences of working on the Monongahela National Forest and what it takes to become a professional in their field.

MNF GIS staff (Sam Lammie, William Schauman, and Tim Brake) used Environmental Systems Research Institute's (ESRI) ArcView GIS software to showcase geographic information systems (GIS) and real-world applications on the MNF. The students also had an opportunity to put ArcView to work. In one exercise students draped and rotated a three-dimensional view of a 1-meter aerial photograph of the Elkins area over a 30-meter elevation model (see below).



GIS Day is a grassroots event that formalizes the practice of geographic information systems (GIS) users and vendors of opening their doors to schools, businesses, and the general public to showcase real-world applications of this important technology. The event is principally sponsored by the National Geographic Society, the Association of American Geographers, University Consortium for Geographic Information Science, the United States Geological Survey, The Library of Congress, Sun Microsystems, and ESRI.